

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PORT O 02412 091714Z

53

ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EA-07 ISO-00 IOE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-01 INR-10 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-01 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-14 USIA-04 OMB-01 AID-05 AF-04 EUR-10

NEA-06 DRC-01 /094 W

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P 091608Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6960

INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT OF SPAIN 2412

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNGA, CB, TD, PFOR

SUBJECT: KHMER REPRESENTATION AT 29TH UNGA

REF: A. STATE 220123 AND 221036; B. POS 2218 AND 2243

1. DCM DISCUSSED KHMER REPRESENTATION ISSUE AGAIN WITH EXTERNAL AFFAIRS PERMANENT SECRETARY ABDULAH OCT 8 IN RESPONSE TO INSTRUCTIONS IN REFTELS (A). ALSO GAVE ABDULAH COPY OF UNGA REMARKS ON CAMBODIA BY INDONESIAN FONMIN ADAM MALIK (STATE 213164), WHICH HE READ ON THE SPOT. ABDULAH RESPONDED SPONTANEOUSLY AND POSITIVELY TO MALIK'S REMARKS AND SAID THEY WERE VERY CLOSE TO TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO'S VIEWS. BUILDING ON THIS, DCM THEN URGED THAT GOTT SUPPORT INITIATIVE OF KHMER REPUBLIC'S

ASIAN NEIGHBORS TO PASS A CONSTRUCTIVE RESOLUTION AT UNGA.

2. AS EXPECTED, ABDULAH WAS NON-COMMITTAL ON ANY POSITIVE VOTE BUT DID APPEAR TO BE FAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY ASIAN COSPONSORS.

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PAGE 02 PORT O 02412 091714Z

3. COMMENT: STILL ANTICIPATE THAT GOTT WILL PROBABLY ABSTAIN ON CRUCIAL VOTE (SEE REFTELS B) IN LINE WITH STANDING ORDERS FROM PRIME MINISTER NOT TO TAKE SIDES IN CONTROVERRIES WHICH ARE NOT DIRECTLY RELATED TO TRINIDAD. GIVEN NOT UNFAVORABLE DISPOSITION AT EXTAFF, HOWEVER, IT MAY BE POSSIBLE AT UNGA TO ELICIT SOME PROCEDURAL ASSISTANCE FROM GOTT DELEGATION. ABDULAH HAS BEEN OUR MOST EFFECTIVE CHANNEL TO GOTT ON UNGA MATTERS IN VIEW OF HIS OWN LONG UN EXPERIENCE AND UNDERSTANDING OF MATRIX OF UNGA DEBATES. HE HAS MADE NO COMMITMENT ON THE UAA VOTES, OF COURSE AND WE DID NOT REALISTICALLY EXPECT ANY. WE SOUGHT HIS ADVICE ON WHETHER I SHOULD TAKE THIS UP AGAIN WITH MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS CUTHBERT JOSEPH, BUT ABDULAH INDICATED THAT THE FELT WE HAD MADE OUR VIEWS FULLY KNOWN. TO PRESS FURTHER COULD BE HARSHLY COUNTERPRODUCTIVE.

4. I DISCARDED OPTION OF TRYING TO PRESS KHMER ISSUE ON PRIME MINISTER (AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER) DR. ERIC WILLIAMS PERSONALLY AT THIS TIME. HE HAS MADE IT PLAIN THAT THE DOES NOT WISH TO DISCUSS SUCH SUBJECTS. FURTHERMORE, ANNUAISMEETING OF RULING PNM OPENS IN THREE DAYS AND IN THIS VIIRTUALLY ONE-PARTY COUNTRY PNM CONVENTION IS MAJOR POLITICAL EVENT OF THE YEAR. EFFORT BY ONE OF MY PREDECESSORS TO PRESS CASE ON CHINESE REPRESENTATION AT UNGA WITH DR. WILLIAMS TWO YEARS AGO AT THIS TIME PARTIALLY TRIGGERED VITRIOLIC SPEECH AGAINST USG BY WILLIAMS AT PNM CONVENTION WHICH INSTITUTED PROLONGED PERIOD OF DEEPFREEZE IN USG-GOTT RELATIONS THAT THAS TENUOUSLY THAWED ONLY IN LAST SIX MONTHS.

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